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Addendum

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1. Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas

Special consultative status granted in 1997

The Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas (FAWCO) was founded in 1931 in the belief that enlightened women working together in different countries throughout the world could do much to achieve peace. FAWCO is today an international network of 77 independent clubs with a combined membership of more than 16,000 women in 35 countries worldwide. It serves as a support network for American women living and working abroad and is particularly active in the fields of education, environmental protection, literacy, women's and children's rights and United States citizens' concerns. FAWCO is a not-for-profit corporation and a founding member of the World Federation of Americans Abroad. It is an international networking organization made up entirely of volunteers. Members are mainly American women living and working abroad, some temporarily and some permanently.

While each member club is independent and operates within the local community of its country, the FAWCO organization is incorporated as a not-for-profit, non-partisan, umbrella organization with its own officers, administration and philanthropic endeavours, and works in concert with the local member organizations. For more background information, visit FAWCO's web site at www.fawco.org.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and other United Nations forums

FAWCO has had an interest in international, social and community activism since its founding. After receiving non-governmental organization status with the Department of Public Information in 1995 and with the Economic and Social Council in 1997, it has had regular representatives at United Nations Headquarters in New York. These representatives have attended the forty-ninth, fiftieth, fifty-first and fifty-second annual DPI/NGO Conferences, on the themes "Building partnerships" (1997), "The fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights" (1998), "The globalized world: finding new directions" (1999) and "Global solidarity" (2000).

FAWCO representatives also attended meetings on human rights during International Women's Day programmes in 1998 and 1999 in New York City. In addition, representatives attended meetings on the Commission on Population and Development in 1998 and the Hague Appeal for Peace in 1999. The Economic and Social Council representative also attended a United Nations conference on the question of Palestine in 1998.

The New York City representative attends the regular weekly briefings for non-governmental organization representatives, reporting back on issues of interest relating to women, children, the environment, education and microdevelopment. FAWCO has non-governmental organization representatives not only in New York, but also for Europe, the Middle East, Africa and the Asia-Pacific region. The European representative attends regular meetings and reports on the activities of the Council on the Status of Women in Geneva.

The FAWCO representative for the Middle East disseminates information from the United Nations in Vienna on issues related to justice, crime and the trafficking of women and children. The non-governmental organization representative in New York attended the United Nations Millennium Forum for 2000. The attendance of FAWCO's current President at the November meeting of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations in Geneva resulted in FAWCO joining the Conference in 2001.

Economic and Social Council-related activities

Since 1967, the philanthropic arm of the Federation, the FAWCO Foundation, has diligently fulfilled its mandate to raise funds and administer them for charitable, scientific and educational purposes. It administers a programme of relief and development grants for projects proposed by the individual member clubs to benefit mainly women and children in developing countries. Since 1997, these donations have grown from $5,000 to more than $20,000 a year. The grants are in addition to funds raised for local projects in the member clubs' countries.

In 1997, the FAWCO Foundation relief and development grants were awarded to a photo-tracing project in the United Republic of Tanzania for refugee children; Amica, a special project for refugee women and children in Bosnia and Herzegovina; DESA, a refugee project in Croatia; and a locally sponsored reading and literacy programme assisting women in the rural area of Tinzouline, Morocco.

In 1998, funds went to a refugee centre for Kurdish women and children in Greece; a home for the disabled in Antigua; an orphanage project in Burkina Faso; and Children in Need, a Dutch charity helping children who were victims of Chernobyl.

In 1999, the grants were awarded to a children's hospital in Russia; the Bellhouse Academy, a literacy project in Thika, Kenya; Operation Angel, a humanitarian health centre in Bajram Curri; a women's centre in the Congo; the Philani Nutrition Centre in South Africa; and Ripples and Rainbows, a resource centre for street children in Calcutta.

In 2000, the relief and development awards went to hospitals in Uganda to assist with the AIDS epidemic; the Monze mission in Zambia; a shelter for battered women in Madrid; and a microeconomic development project training tailors in Kenya.

The variety of the projects reflects the diversity and the wide interests of FAWCO's membership. In addition to these Foundation-sponsored activities, individual FAWCO member clubs around the world have contributed not only funds but countless volunteer hours to activities in the following areas.

Children's rights

Donations to children's welfare organizations have always been a high priority for FAWCO members. Local clubs support nearby children's charities, orphanages and health-care organizations, such as Children in Crisis in the United Kingdom, Save the Children in Sweden, Children's Cancer Relief in Warsaw, Toys for Tots in Luxembourg and AIDS and Children in Zurich.

Women's rights

FAWCO being a women's organization, women's rights have always been at the forefront of its activities. Local clubs have raised money for many different projects related to women's rights and women's economic welfare. Clubs in Barcelona, Madrid, Surrey (England), Dublin, Dusseldorf, Austria, Denmark and The Hague regularly donate money and volunteer time for crisis centres for battered women.

Education

FAWCO's interest in multicultural education and literacy goes back to its earliest days. The FAWCO Foundation administers an awards programme through which scholarship awards worth hundreds of thousands of dollars have been granted for study to FAWCO members and their children in recognition of their academic excellence.

The promotion of literacy has been part of FAWCO activities since its founding. FAWCO has a special committee, Peace through Knowledge, which strives to coordinate literacy programmes in FAWCO clubs around the world and promote involvement in women's microdevelopment projects. Another FAWCO committee, Educational Support, investigates services and options for overseas students with special challenges and learning disabilities. The FAWCO Foundation also offers a special scholarship award for "children who learn differently".

Environment

The FAWCO environment committee has long promoted environmental awareness and responsibility by informing member clubs about environmental issues and encouraging them to learn about and protect their own local environment. The Commiteee offers a "starter pack" to help clubs to set up their own environment committee locally. In addition, the environment committee has been responsible for planting thousands of trees around the world, including, in conjunction with the Peace Corps, more than 2,000 fruit trees in the FAWCO Millennium Forest in Morocco.

Many FAWCO clubs support tree planting and other environmental projects in their local communities. The American Women's Club of Greece has for many years sponsored a beach clean-up programme in Syros and a turtle protection project. Many FAWCO clubs are actively involved in the "Clean up the world" effort on the third weekend of September each year and in local environmental awareness days.

Disaster relief

Since the 1980s, FAWCO has had a relief fund to deal with world emergencies and disasters. Special funds were granted to assist victims of the bombing of the American Embassy in Kenya in 1998, and to Médecins sans frontières for refugees in Kosovo in 1999 and again after the recent earthquake in India. FAWCO member clubs regularly support other non-governmental organizations by donating to the Red Cross, the United Nations Children's Fund, Oxfam and other institutions handling disaster relief.

Publications

The FAWCO *Forum*, the newsletter of the Federation, is published twice a year. It is sent to all 79 clubs for distribution to key people in local communities, embassies and consulates. it is also displayed in clubhouses and local libraries. It includes updates on regular non-governmental organization activities and related FAWCO committee issues and activities. In addition, the President of FAWCO sends out a quarterly "Letter from Headquarters" to all clubs.

Internet

FAWCO is upgrading its communication system to the standards of the digital age. Much of the information that was previously sent by mail is now being received by e-mail and via the organization's new web site, www.fawco.org. The FAWCO non-governmental organization site will allow FAWCO to bring more up-to-date news to its 17,000 members around the world and to enhance the participation of members and member clubs in non-governmental organization-related activities.

2. Fondation El Kef pour le Développement Régional

Special consultative status granted in 1997

The Fondation El Kef pour le Développement Régional (FEKDR) is a non-profit institution working on behalf of the various institutions lobbying for regional development in north-western Tunisia.

It endeavours to improve the living conditions of the poorest people and to increase their incomes, by carrying out integrated development projects with communities in rural and forest areas in order to combat poverty and secure the rights of women and children, with a view to sustainable human development.

The Fondation El Kef is run by a 12-member board of governors and a 5-member executive bureau. It is made up of specialized commissions (seven commissions with 15 members each) and local development committees (one 9-member committee for each area of operations). All members serve on a voluntary basis.

Since 1997, when it was granted special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, FEKDR has placed great emphasis on implementing the instruments, to which it made a modest contribution, adopted by the United Nations at the World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen (1995), the Habitat II Conference in Istanbul (June 1996), and the World Food Summit in Rome (November 1996). It is active in various fields, including social welfare, reproductive health, children, education, the status of women, especially rural women, forestry, farming and environmental protection.

Its activities in these areas can be described as follows.

Social welfare

FEKDR supports disabled persons, abandoned children and the poorest citizens, and helps them to overcome the difficulties which hamper their development, through specialized equipment, transport and training courses for educators, in a spirit of human solidarity.

Health

Open-heart surgery programme. FEKDR regularly sends children suffering from heart defects to the Netherlands, for operations at the University Hospitals of Leiden and Amsterdam, through a solidarity chain of Tunisian and Netherlands institutions. In the past four years, 60 children have been treated under the programme, at a cost of approximately $1.5 million.

Partnership with the Delft Hospital. The results achieved under the cooperation agreement between the hospitals in El Kef and Delft (1995-2000) have encouraged the organizers to continue their collaboration in future years. A new partnership agreement was concluded in 2000 for five years, covering three areas of cooperation: medical, infrastructure and organization.

Children

The activities of FEKDR in this area are based on the Convention on the Rights of the Child, especially articles 28 and 29. Over 60 primary schools in the El Kef region have benefited from this programme, which has been carried out in partnership with UNICEF, the Ministry of Education and foreign organizations, with a budget of $0.8 million.

Project to improve the economic and health conditions of mothers and children in Bir Heddi. As well as improving living conditions for the public at large, the development plan for this area for 1995-1999 seeks to protect the environment and water reservoirs by creating three collinear lakes. The project has made it possible to create momentum for development and to make women aware of problems of reproductive and child health, especially after a dual-compartment mobile clinic, financed from repayments on loans to women, was put into circulation. The cost of the project is $2 million, raised by FEKDR in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) (with funding from the Government of Luxembourg, the Ministry for Women and the Family, the Ministry for Economic Development and the city council of Nova in Italy).

Reproductive health project in the twilight areas of the Governorate of El Kef. This project is part of the sixth cooperation programme between the Government of Tunisia and UNFPA, covering the period 1997-2001. Its aim is to broaden access to reproductive health services in these areas, and to improve information systems, as well as conducting operational research in this field. This project, for the period 2000-2003, will cover 9,800 inhabitants in 11 rural areas.

Pilot integrated development operation in the forest clearings of Sakiet, El Kef Governorate. This project is testing a new forestry strategy which involves the population in the sustainable management of forest and grazing land, on the basis of a participatory, integrated approach. The budget for the project for the period 1998-2000 will be $1.5 million. Two public interest forestry groups have been set up to ensure the sustainability of the project outcomes.

Project for the advancement of rural women in the south-west of El Kef. This project concerns the advancement of rural women and their integration into the formal economy through farming. The budget for the project ($557,000) is provided jointly by the European Union and the Tunisian Government.

Tunisian-Belgian cooperation project. In the context of the special relationship between the Tunisian and the Belgian Governments, FEKDR is working in partnership with the National Solidarity Fund on all the income-generating and income-sustaining activities, construction and housing improvement programmes and training programmes for beneficiaries which are in progress in four areas. The total budget is $1.4 million for the period 2001-2008.

Microcredit. To combat poverty, each year FEKDR concludes a framework agreement and a programme contract with the Tunisian Solidarity Bank, for a budget of $100,000, for grants of microcredit with a ceiling of $1,000 per beneficiary.

Participation in international meetings. FEKDR has sent representatives to international meetings and seminars, especially summit meetings organized by the United Nations, such as the Microcredit Summit in Washington, D.C., in February 1997, and the special session of the United Nations General Assembly on social development (Copenhagen+5), held at Geneva from 26 to 30 June 2000.

Geographical origin of members of FEKDR

Country	*Number of individuals*	*Number of organizations*
Netherlands	15	7
Germany	1	1
United States of America	2	2
France	8	7

3. Foundation for International Training

Special consultative status granted in 1997

Introduction

Between 1997 and 2000, the Foundation for International Training (FIT) extended its geographical area of work to Jamaica and Romania. FIT's representatives have participated in United Nations events and contributed to the promotion of several United Nations resolutions through its projects. Field-based cooperation has been established with a number of United Nations agencies, such as the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

Aims and purposes of the organization

FIT's purpose is to further social and economic progress in developing countries by strengthening human capabilities. FIT's mission is to foster and

increase the capacities of local institutions to strengthen human resources for development.

Increase in geographical membership

Although FIT is not a membership organization, it has affiliations with several southern-based non-governmental organizations that represent local communities and with public institutions in those countries. Since 1997, FIT has increased these partnerships to include two new countries: Jamaica and Romania. In Jamaica, FIT works with community-based organizations, through its Enhancing Civil Society project, which builds the capacity of community-based organizations to address civil society issues through community projects and civil society forums. In Romania, FIT is providing capacity-strengthening support to the Graduate School of Management that was established within the Academy of Economic Studies in Bucharest.

Participation in United Nations meetings

FIT's Executive Director, Mirabelle Rodrigues, attended the fifty-third annual DPI/NGO Conference, entitled "Global solidarity: the way to peace and international cooperation", organized by the NGO Section of the United Nations Department of Public Information, in cooperation with the Executive Committee of Non-Governmental Organizations Associated with the Department of Public Information. The Conference was held at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 28 to 30 August 2000.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

Between 1997 and 2000, FIT, along with other Canadian partners, worked with both the Egyptian Ministry of Education and UNICEF to institutionalize education innovation through the Community Education Technical Assistance project. The project was designed to build upon the Ministry of Education's One Room School initiative and UNICEF's community education model by strengthening common areas of concern, such as teacher training, community engagement and child-centred education. FIT provided technical assistance to UNICEF in designing a training programme for community-based education committees on the topics of collective decision-making, problem-solving and community participation. FIT designed and implemented some 30 major technical assistance activities and more than 50 workshops involving nearly 3,000 UNICEF and Ministry of Education participants.

Between January 1998 and December 1998, FIT arranged for the placement of four Canadian interns with the UNDP resident mission in Bucharest. These interns were actively involved in the development and design of several joint UNDP/ Romanian Government programmes, such as the Urban Renewal and Skills Training Programme, aimed at the physical renewal of some old neighbourhoods of Bucharest and the provision of vocational training. Another intern assignment, involving a local non-governmental organization supported by the UNDP mission, was to design a national development strategy for Romania. FIT's interns also assisted with two pilot projects, initiated by UNDP-Romania: the Economic Empowerment of Rural Women project and the Poverty Alleviation Phase I project. All four interns received training in Canada from FIT prior to their placement with UNDP. These internships were funded through FIT's Youth Internship Programme.

Action in implementation of United Nations resolutions

FIT supports several key United Nations objectives, conventions and resolutions through its project work. The central role of poverty alleviation in development was an important principle endorsed at the World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen. FIT's projects are designed to promote this agenda, whether by supporting income generation and small business opportunities for poor families in Upper Egypt or by building the capacities of small organizations to promote community-based solutions for poverty in Jamaica. FIT has promoted the ideals of the Rio Declaration by assisting small enterprises in Egypt and China to assess the environmental impacts of their activities, and find no-cost or low cost solutions to pollution and waste management problems. FIT projects in Egypt have also supported the International Labour Organization's initiatives on child labour and the Convention on the Rights of the Child. A research project on children and work conducted in Egypt in 1998 prompted a dialogue on the issue among local and international agencies active in the area of small business development. Through the Community Education Technical Assistance project, FIT supported the development of new approaches to increase access to primary education in rural communities, with a specific emphasis on addressing barriers that limit girls' educational opportunities.

Consultative and substantive activities

In 1998, FIT began working with the Rural Development Services Centre, A Vietnamese training and research organization, to establish an indigenous management development programme for staff of local social development organizations working in the area of population and development. With the support of UNFPA, the project developed a Vietnamese-inspired management development programme to enhance the managerial and decision-making skills of social development organization managers.

4. Fundación de Ayuda contra la Drogadicción

Special consultative status granted in 1989

The Fundación de Ayuda contra la Drogadicción (FAD) is a private, non-profit and non-denominational Spanish institution, independent of any political affiliation, officially recognized as a charitable assistance institution. FAD, whose honorary presidency is held by Her Majesty Queen Sophia of Spain, was created in 1986 and since its origin has focused its actions on prevention, an approach nowadays emphasized by main national and international organizations.

The Foundation understands that the prevention of drug-related problems is possible only with solid support and through a firm and unified response on the part of civil society. Thus, one of its aims, along with collaborating with the public sector, has been to generate social mobilization — a response from the citizens to activate social entities responsible for articulating this response.

FAD has three basic lines of action: to serve as a technical reference point for all entities that work in the field of substance abuse prevention, to develop effective intervention and management instruments and to collaborate actively with social groups and institutions with similar goals. With a clear vocation for collaboration,

the Foundation develops its activities throughout Spain by means of agreements with public and private institutions, with central and regional Governments, with local administrations, with universities and training centres, and with social, cultural and sporting organizations and associations. As a logical extension of its work, since 1996 FAD has developed institutional and methodological avenues of cooperation with public and private Latin American organizations having responsibility for the prevention of social problems (drug abuse, violence, family destabilization), educational development and community mobilization.

The following activities were carried out by FAD from 1997 to 2000, in implementation of United Nations resolutions:

Social awareness campaigns. FAD is convinced of the need to create positive opinions and a climate of social awareness and has developed seven media campaigns, trying to adapt to the reality and social context of each moment. It is the only institution that conducts a continuous social awareness campaign in the Spanish mass media, which includes radio, press, television, rental movies, cinemas and outdoor advertising. These campaigns are generally centred on young people and use positive communication, avoiding useless dramatic effects. The 1997 annual report on the drug abuse problem in the world, issued by the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP), congratulated Spain on the realization of the FAD campaign entitled "Control".

Documentation Centre. The most important such centre for documentation in the Spanish language, it handles requests for documentation on drug-related topics, drug dependency and related themes and disseminates at the national level documentation issued by United Nations bodies related to these topics.

Publications. The following National Institute on Drug Abuse (United States of America) monographs have been translated into Spanish and published: "Progresos en el análisis de datos para la investigación de intervenciones preventivas" and "Métodos científicos para la investigación de intervenciones preventivas". Periodical publications include the monthly press bulletin, a collection of articles and news items about drugs that have been published in national and foreign press and magazines; *Intercambio*, a quarterly magazine with information on drug prevention in Spain and Latin America; a quarterly summary bulletin containing updates on drugs mentioned in the publications received by the Documentation Centre; and a yearly funds catalogue that contains a bibliography of publications received by the Documentation Centre during the year. Non-periodical publications include informative booklets for general distribution, instructional guides and support material for fostering prevention programmes, subject and sector studies and specific reports

Web site — www.fad.es. The site provides information about FAD programmes, documents, campaigns, seminars, etc. Databases and documents are directly available on the Internet.

Toll-free telephone number — 900 16 15 15. The toll-free line provides information about drugs and drug dependency (characteristics, symptoms and effects of main substances of abuse, both legal and illegal, and their forms of abuse), as well as about resources available in Spain for assistance in the treatment of drug dependency. It also provides orientation assessment and support in relation to situations of abuse, giving criteria and guidelines for action and serving as a

complementary system of information collection (patterns of abuse, requests, new substances). During this period 74,397 calls were answered.

Training. There has been collaboration with various universities at the postgraduate level for the development of master's and expert degrees, as well as in-depth training courses. Undergraduate courses have been directed towards training in fields such as medicine and media sciences. Training in drug dependency for specific professional groups, such as social mediators, local police and the Spanish Army, has been provided.

Prevention programme. For schools, a set of activities directed towards systematizing the prevention of drug abuse in grade school contexts has been undertaken. This programme intervenes directly in the educational community through interaction with teachers, parents and young children. It has four subprogrammes that use literature, movies (in collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Spanish National Committee), music and sports (also in collaboration with the UNICEF Spanish National Committee), to implement prevention activities. For families, there is a programme aimed at parents with the objective of increasing their awareness and providing them with strategies related to the prevention of drug abuse. By means of an active and participative methodology, it seeks to complement action in schools with family participation in the field of prevention. For adolescents, an educational programme for prevention of new drug abuse patterns, addressed to 16- to 18-year-old students, is aimed at promoting awareness and group work with the goal of reducing abuse of alcohol and other drugs among young people. An alcohol and traffic programme is directed towards students at driving schools and adult education centres. Its objective is to prevent the risks of combining driving with alcohol abuse.

Volunteerism. FAD has sought to mobilize volunteers, who, on the one hand, support and facilitate its programmes for action and, on the other hand, act as true community agents for prevention and social awareness. It has 750 volunteers.

Research and investigation. Through various analytical strategies and theoretical constructions, FAD aims at contributing to the development of methodologies for intervention in and follow-up of drug-related problems and their social impact. For this purpose the Foundation has a specific area for research and investigation, which covers the following subjects: multidisciplinary seminars on specific subjects, epidemiological research, sociological research and applied research.

International area. Activities undertaken by FAD in international circles are aimed at extending the methodological experience of the institution through cooperation in the development of programmes and preventive educational activities in other countries, mainly in Latin America. The aims are:

- To back organizations in other countries in reinforcing their institutional image, enable communication between cooperative organisms and promote development of their technical capacity, which will enable them to multiply and increase the efficiency of their actions
- To facilitate methodological and instrumental consensus thus promoting the transmission of methodologies, the sharing of technical advances and complementarity of efforts and programmes

- To support, as a final result of all of the above, the development of a socially articulated network in the various countries.

Fields of action are these: educational/preventive (working with teachers and students in general educational areas), community (promoting mobilization, organizational development and educational development in communities, with special attention focused on young people and teenagers) and technical /professional (promoting the training and certification of professionals and mediators).

From 1997 to 2000, FAD cooperated with the following United Nations bodies and specialized agencies:

- UNICEF Spanish National Committee: implementation in Spanish schools of the FAD prevention programmes "Films and education in values" and "Good sportsman's club", and the making of a videotape
- UNICEF Americas and the Caribbean Regional Office and UNICEF branches in Peru, Paraguay and Bolivia: realization of a programme to strengthen and increase non-governmental organization networks involved in the development of UNICEF aims. It includes the following activities: social worker training, meetings and seminars, institutional reinforcement for non-governmental organizations (training, strengthening, redesigning of projects, support and technical counselling), writing and publication of books and guides for community intervention, distribution of materials among non-governmental organizations that work with UNICEF and technical counselling on UNICEF programmes for the educational development of children and adolescents
- The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS: participation in seminars on risk prevention and injection of drugs; lectures given by the FAD Technical Director on the subjects "Ethics of substitution programmes", "Quality level and demands of harm reduction programmes" and "Medium aims intervention patterns"; technical counselling on epidemiological research on HIV and AIDS cases (Southern Cone of South America)
- UNDCP: development of a joint project in Peru and Colombia for informing and training journalists on drug topics. This programme uses an online training methodology through the Internet and CD-ROM (Infodrogas programme). The FAD Technical Director participates regularly in meetings with UNDCP in Bogotá, Lima and Montevideo.

FAD is affiliated with the following international institutions:

- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations substance abuse office, as project coordinator
- European Libraries and Information Services on Alcohol and Other Drugs, as a member of the main committee
- Substance Abuse Libraries and Information Services (United States of America), as a member
- European Foundation of Drug Helplines, as a founding member
- Regional Alcohol and Drug Awareness Resource, as an associate member
- UNDCP, as a member

- European NGO Council on Drugs and Development, as a member
- Youth Substance Abuse Prevention Fund, as a technical adviser.

5. Global Cooperation Society International

Special consultative status granted in 1997

The Global Cooperation Society (GCS) International is an international non-governmental organization in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. The headquarters of GCS International was established in Seoul in 1978. It is a global movement focusing on five major goals: a morally sound society, better living, protection of nature and the environment, restoration of human dignity, and world peace in the spirit of good will, cooperation and service.

The movement was first proclaimed in 1975 at the fourth Triennial Conference of the International Association of University Presidents, which was held in Boston. The Boston Declaration was adopted by the Presidents of 600 prestigious universities around the world, officially launching the GCS movement.

As at December 2000, there were 33 national chapters and 500 regional chapters and local clubs with 18,000 members. GCS International has expanded its network through its 33 national chapters, in Belgium, England, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Sweden, Russia, Ukraine, Norway, the United States of America, India, Japan, China, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Thailand, Kenya, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Australia, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico, Paraguay and Uruguay. GCS International covers all the continents of the world, having expanded to the African region in 2000. GCS International's funds come from membership dues and voluntary donations and there has been no substantial change in its sources since 1997.

GCS International became associated with the United Nations Department of Public Information in 1992 and was granted special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council in 1997. For the last 19 years, GCS International, in collaboration with the International Association of University Presidents and the United Nations Association of Korea, has held annual ceremonies and international peace conferences in observance of the International Day of Peace (the third Tuesday in September), contributing greatly to the promotion of the love and preservation of peace.

GCS International celebrated the International Day of Peace and held a peace conference in Seoul from 1 to 3 September 1997 under the theme "Visions and realities in the twenty-first century: the role of East Asia". It also held an international peace conference on 1 and 2 September 1998 under the theme "Visions and realities in the twenty-first century", in observance of the seventeenth International Day of Peace. In 1999, its commemorative ceremony and international. conference were held from 11 to 13 September under the theme "Global visions towards the next millennium: modern civilization and beyond". For the nineteenth International Day of Peace GCS International held a commemoration ceremony and an international peace conference in Seoul on 19 and 20 September 2000 under the theme "Global governance in the twenty-first century.

GCS International sent its delegation to the annual DPI/NGO Conferences at the United Nations in 1997, 1998 and 1999 to enhance its relationship with the United Nations through non-governmental organization programmes.

At the threshold of the twenty-first century, GCS International co-hosted the 1999 Seoul International Conference of NGOs, from 10 to 16 October 1999, under the theme "The role of NGOs in the twenty-first century: inspire, empower and act!" The event was also hosted by the NGO/DPI Executive Committee and the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations and was endorsed by 20 international organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Labour Organization, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the United Nations University, the World Health Organization and the World Bank. The Seoul NGO Conference was the first major non-governmental organization gathering dedicated primarily to the question of how non-governmental organizations themselves would be well organized and empowered at the global level so as to address issues across the whole spectrum of human progress. With 13,000 participants representing 1,360 non-governmental organizations from 107 countries, the Conference addressed 11 major themes in 187 workshops, 10 thematic plenary meetings and five general plenary meetings in connection with issues of contemporary society. Among the specific issues addressed were peace and security, environment, education, ethics and values, gender equality, social and economic development, youth and children, human rights, health, productive ageing and empowering non-governmental organizations.

The Seoul Millennium Declaration of NGOs was adopted on the basis of discussion of these issues to provide a vision for the future, and a plan of action was prepared to stress the interconnected nature of the challenges facing the world and the need for coordinated action and implementation by all the peoples of the world.

Given the emphasis on the United Nations world conferences, and as preparation for the Millennium NGO Forum and the Millennium General Assembly, the United Nations had a high profile at the Conference, which opened with a videotaped address from the Secretary-General. During the Conference personal addresses were delivered by the Deputy Secretary-General, the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Under-Secretary-General for Communications and Public Information and the Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict. Many representatives of United Nations agencies were also present during the Conference.

After the NGO Conference, GCS International published 1,000 copies of the record of the proceedings in Korean and 500 in English. The Korean edition was distributed to many Korean non-governmental organizations and the English edition to foreign participants in the Millennium NGO Forum at the United Nations.

Five delegates of GCS International attended the Millennium NGO Forum, held at the United Nations from 22 to 26 June 2000. The President of GCS International was invited to address a plenary meeting of the Forum and delivered a

speech under the topic "A grand design for non-governmental organizations for the new millennium".

The President of GCS International initiated the publication of *The World Encyclopedia of Peace* to promote and maintain peace as a primary concern. The first edition was published in the United Kingdom in 1986 by Pergamon Press in observance of the International Day of Peace. The second edition was published in New York in 1999 by Oceana Publications. *The World Encyclopedia of Peace* is the fruit of the work of more than 320 scholars and experts from more than 36 countries, with more than 620 articles covering concepts, theories, movements, initiatives, milestones and key individuals in the area of peace.

6. Inter-American Housing Union

Special consultative status granted in 1989

The Inter-American Housing Union (UNIAPRAVI) is a non-governmental international organization that comprises about 140 publicly and privately owned institutions — savings and loan associations, mortgage banks, housing banks, universal banks with mortgage portfolios, housing funds, ministries of housing, building firms, etc. — involved in the financing, promotion and regulation of the housing and urban development sector in 21 countries in the Americas. UNIAPRAVI was founded in Caracas in 1964, and is primarily aimed at contributing to the strengthening of such institutions by providing them with technical advisory, training, research and information services dealing with housing and urban development policies and finance.

In 1999 UNIAPRAVI completed 35 years of institutional life, and during these three and a half decades has made a substantial effort to enhance, by means of strengthening the capabilities of sectoral institutions, resource mobilization for housing and urban infrastructure initiatives, as well as access to housing for a greater share of the population. This work has been and is being done with the objective in mind of consolidating UNIAPRAVI as a distinguished information centre, think tank, and initiative catalyst for sectoral development and financing in the countries of the region.

In recent years the working agenda of UNIAPRAVI has been shaped to respond to the new challenges and opportunities that the current globalized context offers. In this regard, an issue of paramount importance has been the analysis and exchange of ideas and experiences concerning the development of secondary mortgage markets. A growing number of Latin American countries have been pursuing legal, institutional and operating initiatives so as to attain this objective. The in-depth discussion of this issue has also led us to emphasize the need to stimulate the development of solid primary mortgage markets.

Priority has also been granted to the analysis and discussion of how to improve access to affordable housing for lower-income groups, a task that deserves special attention from all Governments of the region. UNIAPRAVI has played a relevant role in disseminating information on the extent to which demand-side housing subsidy regimes have contributed to this objective in a number of Latin American countries and on how their experiences may be useful to other countries. While some countries have considerable experience with this kind of instrument — Chile,

Costa Rica and Colombia, among others — a growing number of countries have also stepped into this area at a later date by adopting political decisions and specific regimes for implementation. As a result, all these countries have found an alternative way to provide lower-income families with access to affordable housing without introducing distortions to the functioning of housing finance markets.

Closely related to the foregoing, UNIAPRAVI has supported the idea that the housing sector development model must be compatible with the overall development model. This is done by fostering the prevalence of market mechanisms to lead to enhanced private investment in the sector and, at the same time, by strengthening the facilitating and subsidiary role of the State so as to offer equality of opportunity to all families, regardless of level of income, to have suitable access to housing.

In addition, UNIAPRAVI is putting increasing emphasis on the discussion of a wide range of topics related to the provision and financing of urban infrastructure and services. Water supply and sewerage, electric power supply, waste disposal and access to land are all key elements for quality of life. However, in Latin America there exists a significant deficit in the provision of these services, primarily affecting lower-income groups. UNIAPRAVI has been increasingly attentive to the search for useful ideas and experiences in order to establish region-wide the legal, institutional, technical and financial conditions necessary to attain integral urban development with the contribution of all parties involved (i.e., the State, local governments, businessmen and communities). In this regard, in 2000 UNIAPRAVI signed a collaborative agreement with the Urban Management Programme for Latin America and the Caribbean (PGU-LAC) in order to carry out joint activities intended to foster urban development in the region. PGU-LAC was originally established as a joint effort of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS) and other international cooperation agencies.

It is worth noting that in 2000 UNIAPRAVI joined the regional commission for the support of the global campaigns promoted by UNCHS — now the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat). Close contacts have been made with the UN-Habitat Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, based in Rio de Janeiro. In this respect, Habitat is organizing its work around two global campaigns: the Campaign for Security of Tenure and the Campaign for Urban Governance. The President of UNIAPRAVI represented the institution at a meeting in Santiago from 25 to 27 October 2000, in the framework of the Istanbul+5 regional preparatory meeting at the headquarters of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Another key way to disseminate these ideas and contributions has been, as in the past, the programme of publications that comprises books and periodicals providing a unique source of documentation and information in the field of housing, urban policies and finance in the Americas. Many United Nations agencies (ECLAC, Habitat, UNDP, etc.) are standing recipients of this information. Within the reporting period, UNIAPRAVI also launched its web site, which is intended to be a first-hand source of information on the sector and the work of the Union for the benefit of all institutions, including United Nations agencies, involved in the development of the housing and urban development sector. It is hoped that closer interaction with governmental bodies, private sector practitioners, international organizations and cooperation agencies can be attained by this means.

7. International Centre for the Legal Protection of Human Rights

Special consultative status granted in 1983

Introduction

The International Centre for the Legal Protection of Human Rights (INTERIGHTS) is an international human rights organization, established in 1982, that aims to promote the effective use of international human rights law to protect rights and freedoms worldwide. It provides support for lawyers, judges, human rights organizations and others in addressing human rights problems through the law. It focuses primarily on the developing world, with active programmes in Africa, Central and Eastern Europe, South Asia and the Commonwealth Caribbean, giving special attention to the rights to liberty and security of the person, equal treatment without discrimination, free expression and economic, social and cultural rights. INTERIGHTS publishes a quarterly *Bulletin* on developments in human rights law and the *Commonwealth Human Rights Law Digest*, both distributed worldwide. INTERIGHTS is a registered charity, dependent on grants and donations. It holds consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council, granted in 1983, the African Commission for Human and Peoples' Rights and the Council of Europe, and is authorized to submit complaints under the collective complaints mechanism of the European Social Charter.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and United Nations meetings

INTERIGHTS:

- submitted or assisted others to submit a number of complaints to the United Nations Human Rights Committee against States including Algeria, Georgia, Guyana, Jamaica, the Russian Federation, Sri Lanka and Trinidad and Tobago, mostly relating to the death penalty and fair trial, and advised on potential complaints from Nepal
- assisted in the preparation of a complaint to the United Nations Committee against Torture regarding the deportation of an asylum-seeker to a country where the complainant faced a violation of article 3 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
- filed, or assisted others to file, complaints and submissions to the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, the United Nations Special Rapporteurs on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, on violence against women and on torture; the complaints addressed issues including fair trial, ill-treatment in prison, "honour crimes", battered women's defence and mandatory death penalty.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

INTERIGHTS:

- advised the United Nations Development Programme office in Dhaka and several Bangladeshi non-governmental organizations on the Bangladesh

Human Rights Commission Bill 1998 and its conformity with international human rights standards

- with support from the United Nations Development Fund for Women, initiated technical support for the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of women to the African Commission for Human and Peoples' Rights in defining her mandate and producing her first report.

Other relevant activities

Casework and other advice

INTERIGHTS:

- provided advice to lawyers, judges, and non-governmental organizations on the effective invocation of United Nations human rights standards in many cases worldwide at the domestic and the regional level and on the techniques of utilizing international mechanisms in specific cases
- concerned by lack of implementation of decisions of the United Nations Human Rights Committee by Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago, made submissions to the United Nations Rapporteur responsible for follow-up and also to the Commonwealth Secretary-General, who was visiting the region, detailing the decisions and the action taken
- concerned by the withdrawal of Caribbean States from the First Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and in some cases reaccession with reservations, sought expert advice and brought a test case to the Human Rights Committee on the legal implications of the reservations.

Meetings organized or attended

INTERIGHTS staff organized and participated in seminars, workshops and conferences on the practical application of international human rights law, particularly in Central and Eastern Europe, Africa and South Asia, including the following activities:

- organizing a pan-African meeting on fair trial in Africa in September 1999, co-funded by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, where comparative information on United Nations norms and procedures on fair trial was referred to extensively
- organizing a judicial colloquium on the domestic implementation of international human rights norms, particularly those of the United Nations, in Bangalore, India, in 1998, jointly with the Commonwealth Secretariat
- organizing a workshop for the London-based panel representing death row prisoners in the Caribbean on relevant petition mechanisms, including the United Nations Human Rights Committee, the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, the Special Rapporteur on Torture and the 1503 procedure
- participating in the NGO Coalition for the Establishment of an International Criminal Court and attendance at meetings of the Preparatory Committee on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court

- participating in a series of meetings to review the role of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women, its Causes and Consequences, organized by the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development in 1997 and 1999.

Publications

Many INTERIGHTS publications carry information on United Nations systems and jurisprudence:

- The *Bulletin*, published quarterly, contains summaries of all decisions of United Nations juridical bodies, articles about topics relating to the practical use of international human rights law, including United Nations instruments, information about recent developments (including new United Nations instruments, General Comments, etc.) and additional information such as ratification charts. The *Bulletin* has been translated in full or in part into Bulgarian, French, Hungarian, Russian, Sinhala and Tamil
- The *Database on Commonwealth Human Rights Law* and its associated periodical, the *Commonwealth Human Rights Law Digest*, issued three times a year, carry summaries of human rights-related decisions of senior Commonwealth national courts, especially those referring to United Nations or regional human rights standards
- The INTERIGHTS web site carries, inter alia, summaries of decisions of the United Nations Human Rights Committee, the Committee against Torture and other United Nations human rights bodies
- *Developing Human Rights Jurisprudence, Vol. 7*, published with the Commonwealth Secretariat following a judicial colloquium held in Georgetown, Guyana, in 1996, contains papers by eminent judges on the domestic application of United Nations and other human rights standards
- INTERIGHTS contributed a chapter on human rights tribunals, including United Nations bodies, to *The Handbook on International Courts and Tribunals* (Butterworths, United Kingdom, 1999)
- *Reading Human Rights: an Annotated Guide to a Human Rights Library* contains selected literature on human rights standards, including many on relevant United Nations standards.

8. International Federation of Women in Legal Careers

Special consultative status granted in 1961

The International Federation of Women in Legal Careers is an international non-governmental organization that was founded in Paris in 1928. The activities of the International Federation, according to article 2 of its statute, are inspired by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, as enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and reaffirmed in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, as well as in all other resolutions, declarations, conventions and recommendations of the United Nations and its subsidiary bodies aimed at eradicating all forms of discrimination and promoting equality between men and women. To that end, the members of the International

Federation work to make those principles known and to persuade national parliaments and Governments, as well as all competent authorities and the public, that national legislation should conform to those principles and that they should be effectively applied in social and judicial activities.

Affiliates of the International Federation of Women in Legal Careers include 35 national associations and 36 individual members, which in their countries work according to those principles.

The Congress of the International Federation of Women in Legal Careers meets every three years. Its Council, made up of three representatives of each national association, meets once a year. The Board, elected by the Council, meets twice a year.

The International Federation's only source of funding is the fees paid by its members.

Delegates of the International Federation have participated in working sessions of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

The International Federation attended the special session of the United Nations General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century". Our Federation held its sixteenth Congress in Naples, with the participation of a representative of UNESCO. The theme was women at the threshold of the third millennium.

The President of the International Federation, Claire Jourdan, attended meetings of the Commission on the Status of Women in New York in 1998 and 1999. In 1998 the Council met in Paris, and the seventieth anniversary of the International Federation was celebrated. In 1999 the seventeenth Congress was held, under the theme "Violence against women and human rights: legal aspects". After that Congress Spain became President of the International Federation.

The new Board is represented in the Economic and Social Council in New York, Vienna and Geneva. We also have representation in UNESCO and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. We will work further in order to have representation in the United Nations Children's Fund.

We are preparing the next meeting of the Council, to be held in Istanbul. We will have a seminar on trafficking in women and children from 1 to 9 September.

We have a web site and have published two circulars.

At the forty-fifth session of the Commission on the Status of Women in New York from 6 to 16 March 2001, the International Federation of Women in Legal Careers submitted the Toledo Declaration. Angelina Huríos Calcerrada, President of the International Federation, submitted a statement under item 3 (c) of the provisional agenda.

At the fifty-seventh session of the Commission on Human Rights, in Geneva in April 2001, statements were submitted by Mayte Baiges Artís, Secretary-General of the International Federation, about the situation of Afghan women and about violence against women.

9. Institute of Internal Auditors

Special consultative status granted in 1989

Introduction

Mission statement: to be the primary international association for the profession, organized on a worldwide basis, dedicated to the promotion and development of the practice of internal auditing. The Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) is committed to:

- Providing, on an international scale, comprehensive professional development activities, standards for the practice of internal auditing, and certification
- Researching, disseminating and promoting to its members, and to the public throughout the world, knowledge and information concerning internal auditing, internal control and related subjects
- Establishing meetings worldwide in order to educate members and others about the practice of internal auditing as it exists in various countries throughout the world
- Bringing together internal auditors from all countries to share information and experiences in internal auditing and promoting education in the field of internal auditing.

Motto: "Progress through sharing".

To accomplish its mission, the Institute has four primary objectives:

- To be a recognized authority
- To be an acknowledged leader
- To be a principal educator
- To be a professional organization (effectively using the skills of volunteers and staff).

IIA provides the basis of the profession of internal auditing, consisting of elements such as:

- Standards for the professional practice of internal auditing
- Code of ethics
- Certifications (Certified Internal Auditor, Certified Government Auditing Professional, Certification in Control Self-Assessment).

Membership growth

The organizational components of IIA are chapters or national institutes. National institutes are self-sustaining organizations with anywhere from 300 to 5,000 members. The greatest membership growth has taken place in the last few years with the addition of many new affiliates outside North America. Individual memberships grew from 63,000 in 1997 to about 70,000 at the end of 2000. Approximately half of the members are in North America (the United States of

America, Canada and the Caribbean). The other half are from outside North America.

New chapters or national institutes established from 1997 to 2000 are identified below:

1997: Austria,[1] Botswana, Caracas, Fiji, Greece, Guatemala, Mississippi Gulf Coast (United States of America), Salem (United States of America), Thailand,[1] Poland

1998: Estonia

1999: Azerbaijan, Barbados, Cyprus, Latvia, Malawi, Riyadh (Saudi Arabia)

2000: Guyana, Ecuador,[1] Honduras, Lebanon, Moscow, Slovenia

Activities in conjunction with the United Nations or its agencies

In 1997:

- IIA held a training session on tools and techniques for beginning auditors for the World Food Programme from 27 to 31 January
- IIA held a training session on fraud detection and investigation for the International Labour Organization on 15 and 16 April.

In 1998:

- IIA performed a quality auditing review at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) from 22 June to 3 July
- IIA's Global Auditing Information Network provided the World Bank Group with an internal auditing benchmarking report.

In 1999:

- IIA held training sessions on value added business controls for the World Bank Group from 17 to 19 March and from 3 to 7 May
- IIA performed a quality auditing review for the Auditor General of the World Bank Group from 1 to 12 November
- IIA's Global Auditing Information Network provided the World Bank Group and IMF with internal auditing benchmarking reports.

In 2000:

- IIA's Global Auditing Information Network provided the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Bank Group and IMF with internal auditing benchmarking reports
- IIA held a training session on skills for the new auditor-in-charge for the United Nations Office at Geneva from 12 to 14 January
- IIA performed a quality auditing review at the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization from 14 to 25 August

[1] Chapter created or status changed to national institute.

- IIA held a training session on auditing the automated business environment for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations from 6 to 8 December.

IIA participation in United Nations meetings

In 1997: annual meeting of United Nations auditors

In 1998: annual meeting of United Nations auditors at Geneva

In 1999: annual meeting of United Nations auditors at Paris

In 2000: annual meeting of United Nations auditors at Rome.

10. Institute for International Economic Cooperation and Development

Special consultative status granted in 1993

Introductory statement: aims and purposes

The Institute for International Economic Cooperation and Development (ICEPS) is a non-profit organization founded in 1966 and made up of prominent members from the world of politics, culture and business. In 1990 the Institute joined the European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes as an institutional member; in 1993 it was recognized as a non-governmental organization in consultative status (category II) with the Economic and Social Council; in 1995 it was granted the status of internationalist body of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in accordance with Law No. 948/1982.

The purposes of ICEPS are as follows: to promote the economies and development of developing and emerging countries, Central and Eastern European States and newly independent States, and to provide information, research, advice and technical assistance activities related to international economic cooperation and development.

ICEPS carries out cooperation activities and exchanges information with United Nations organizations — the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Information Centre for Italy, Malta and the Holy See — and with other international organizations, such as the World Bank, the Development Centre of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, the World Trade Organization and the Italian/European Research and Training Institutes.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council — organization of and participation in conferences and meetings

ICEPS cooperated on the occasion of the first World Investment in Tourism Conference and Exhibition, held in Milan from 25 to 27 February 1997. It presented a project entitled "How can you finance an activity in the tourism field — the resources of the main international financial institutions".

ICEPS created a report on prospects for United Nations reform in connection with the evolution of the international political situation. It was presented in the Italian Parliament on 5 March 1997.

ICEPS participated in the Xarxa Mediterània conference, organized by the Centre for International Information and Documentation, located in Barcelona. The conference took place in Casablanca on 9 and 10 June 1997. ICEPS also participated in the meetings of the "Club Financier Mediterranean" in 1997.

ICEPS participated in the World Convention of Italian Chambers of Commerce Abroad, held in Parma, from 26 to 28 October 1998. ICEPS established contacts with representatives of the Chambers of Commerce with a view to future collaborations.

ICEPS collaborated in the presentation by the African Development Bank (ADB) at a conference in Florence in December 1998. The objective was to foster the participation of Italian enterprises in activities promoted by the ADB Group.

ICEPS was present at a meeting on the euro in the context of the present world currency instability, with an accent on monetary instability in Latin American countries. The meeting took place in Verona in May 1999.

ICEPS organized a bilateral conference on Italy and Madagascar, with the accent on an effective strategy for promoting economic cooperation between the two countries. The conference was held in Verona on 18 June 1999.

ICEPS, in cooperation with Le Bouget and the European Institute of World Affairs, organized an Italian forum on strategies for European aerospace policy, held on 28 June 1999 in Milan.

ICEPS was present at a meeting with Ion Iliescu, President of the Romanian Social Democracy Party, held on 27 October 1999 in Rome.

ICEPS, in collaboration with the Centre for International Political Studies (CeSPI) and the Istituto Italo-Latinoamericano (IILA), participated in the organization of a Forum on the development of small enterprises, which took place in Verona from 31 January to 2 February 2000.

ICEPS, in collaboration with CeSPI, the Centro per lo Sviluppo della Ricerca Tecnologica and IILA, organized a forum on the theme "Argentina and Italy, together towards the third millennium", which took place in Cordoba, Argentina, from 18 to 26 November 2000. The purposes of the forum were to strengthen the relationship between Italy and Argentina and to promote small and medium-sized enterprises and international exchanges.

ICEPS jointed in meeting with Ali Ahani, Ambassador of Iran, on opportunities for cooperation between Iran and Italy, held on 13 March 2000 in Villafranca, Italy.

ICEPS joined in a mission to Tehran from 15 to 21 June 2000.

ICEPS, in collaboration with CeSPI, the International Court of the Environment Foundation and the Istituto per le relazioni tra l'Italia e i Paesi dell'Africa, America Latina e Medio Oriente organized a meeting on the Italian policy to reduce poverty in the South on 14 July 2000.

There was a round table on the theme "Small and medium-sized enterprises: strategies to promote a link between Italian and Argentine enterprises".

Other activities

ICEPS participated in a series of programmes of the European Union aimed at promoting economic cooperation among enterprises of emerging European States. ICEPS organized technical seminars and workshops for European and other businessmen.

ICEPS participated in projects that created a virtual socio-economic observatory, with the Community of Mediterranean Universities and the European Commission.

Another activity developed in collaboration with the European Union is the project Al-Invest Cibus 98, and in particular:

- A project for collaboration between Brazilian and European workers in the agricultural industry
- Collaboration between Uruguay and Brazil in the field of ornamental stones
- Activities relating to the leather industry in Mexico.

In collaboration with the World Bank, ICEPS published a book on the World Bank's support for enterprises.

ICEPS presented a paper on Programmes of debt conversion in the Mediterranean countries and the participation of private Italian citizens, in May 1997.

ICEPS published a compilation of fundamental events and programme activities involving the United Nations, the World Bank, the European Union and other international organizations. ICEPS also published the following reports:

- No. 5/97, "Economic and political security" (July 1997)
- No. 4/97, "Programme for conversion of debts of Mediterranean countries" (June 1997)
- No. 3/97, "The Lomé Convention, ACP-EU in 2000 — continuity or innovation" (May 1997)
- No. 2/97, "The United Nations perspectives in relation to the evolution of the international political situation" (April 1997)
- No. 1/97, "The world vertex of feed — and FAO reform" (January/February 1997)
- No. 1/98, "Give the United Nations the instruments and we will do our work".

In 1998 ICEPS published other reports as well, on the United Nations and its reforms and on the European Union programmes relating to the Mediterranean countries.

ICEPS published index cards for African countries, and in particular for Madagascar and Mozambique, in 1998.

In terms of general activities regarding information about the United Nations, ICEPS updated its archive with documentation on the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the Economic Commission for Europe and the Economic and Social Council.

Information and research activities relating to the heavily indebted poor countries were carried out.

ICEPS has a library that is open to the public. Access to the library is free. It has about 4,000 volumes, especially in the fields of international economic cooperation. Moreover, it has a periodicals library with about 100 magazines and other publications.